

Headteacher – Mont a L'abbe

The issue is a very complex one which has far reaching implications for families and also for other state funded provisions such as my school.

Of course budgets are always tight and finite and we all accept that we have to make the most of what we have. However with regard to respite and long term care of children with complex needs (you cannot separate the two in Jersey) the impact of an inadequate service with very limited provision means that available resources cannot be used to best long term effect. Managers and leaders are forced to spend considerable time and effort on crises management which detracts from those elements of provision which are adequate and could be outstanding.

I feel I should state that there is much support and collaboration between services at ground level; professionals are prepared to go the extra mile to meet the needs of children and families but I see a great deal of frustration and despair.

I would be happy to discuss this issue with member(s) of the Scrutiny panel in a positive solution focused manner, I am encouraged that the review is taking place and optimistic about the outcomes.